

Sub H1
2. (Amended) A process for production of an essential oil-rich hop extract, comprising the steps of:

(1) extracting hops with supercritical or subcritical carbon dioxide solvent at an extraction pressure of higher than 100 kg /cm² to obtain a carbon dioxide extract;
9.8 MPA

(2) separating bitter components from the carbon dioxide extract at a pressure between 100 kg/cm² and said extraction pressure; and then

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(3) separating an essential oil-rich hop extract from the carbon dioxide extract at a pressure of 2 lower than 100 kg/cm²,

wherein the ratio of essential oil components (ml) to α -acid(s) in the ^g extracted ⁿ original hops is increased by at least 2.

3. (Amended) An essential oil-rich hop extract obtainable by the steps of:

(1) extracting hops with supercritical or subcritical carbon dioxide solvent at a pressure of 80 to 100 kg /cm² to obtain a carbon dioxide extract; and

(2) separating an essential oil-rich hop extract from the carbon dioxide extract,

wherein the ratio of essential oil components (ml) to α -acid(s) in the ^g extracted ⁿ original hops is increased by at least 2.

4. (Amended) An essential oil-rich extract obtainable by the step of:

(1) extracting hops with supercritical or

subcritical carbon dioxide solvent at an extraction pressure of higher than 100 kg/cm² to obtain a carbon dioxide extract;

(2) separating bitter components from the carbon dioxide extract at a pressure between 100 kg/cm² and said extraction pressure; and then

(3) separating an essential oil-rich hop extract from the carbon dioxide extract at a pressure of lower than 100 kg/cm²,

wherein the ratio of essential oil components (ml) to α -acid(s) in the original hops is increased by at least 2.

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5. (Amended) A product comprising:

(A) an essential oil-rich hop extract obtainable by the steps of:

(1) extracting hops with supercritical or subcritical carbon dioxide solvent at a pressure of 80 to 100 kg/cm² to obtain a carbon dioxide extract and a hop extract residue; and

(2) separating an essential oil-rich hop extract from the carbon dioxide extract; and

(B) said hop extract residue,

wherein the ratio of essential oil components (ml) to α -acid(s) in the original hops is increased by at least 2.

6. (Amended) A product comprising:

(A) an essential oil-rich hop extract obtainable by the steps of:

(1) extracting hops with supercritical or subcritical carbon dioxide solvent at an extraction pressure of higher than 100 kg/cm² to obtain a carbon dioxide extract and a hop extract residue;

(2) separating bitter components from the carbon dioxide extract at a pressure between 100 kg/cm² and said extraction pressure; and then

(3) separating an essential oil-rich hop extract from the carbon dioxide extract at a pressure of lower than 100 kg /cm² ; and

(B) said hop extract residue,

wherein the ratio of essential oil components (ml) to α -acid(s) in the original hops is increased by at least 2.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the above-identified application as amended are respectfully requested. The above-identified amendments are believed to be fully consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.116. The amendments to the claims do not require further consideration or search because the claims as amended further specify the essential oil components. Support for the added recitation of "the ratio of essential oil components (ml) to α -acid(s) in the original hops is increased by at least 2" may be found at the very least at page 10, lines 26-28.

The Examiner alleges that the Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") dated May 28, 1996, fails to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). More specifically, copies of the